

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 15 (canceled).

16. (new): A method of information processing comprising:
receiving a command from a predetermined user;
processing the command from the predetermined user by utilizing a memory section that includes:
a first area for storing data related to at least one user; and
a second area allocated, based on the actual amount of information to be stored, within an unused portion of the first area;
wherein the second area is utilized by the at least one user stored in said first area, and
wherein the second area is managed in a block unit having a predetermined size that stores a plurality of data that respectively prescribes different access rights to each of the at least one user stored in the first area, wherein the block unit includes a plurality of blocks that include:
a first block number; and
a second block number;
wherein the first and second block numbers reflect the size of the memory area associated with each user based on the actual amount of information stored for each user; and
transmitting results of said processing.
17. (new): The method of claim 16, wherein an unused area of the second area is allocated to said first area.
18. (new): The method of claim 16, wherein the command is processed by referring two or more block data of different access rights.

19. (new): The method of claim 16, wherein the second area includes a common area which is accessible by two or of the at least one user.
20. (new): An information processing apparatus comprising:
 - means for receiving a command from a predetermined user;
 - means for processing the received command and generating a result;
 - means for transmitting the result of the processed command; and
 - a memory, the memory includes:
 - a first area for storing data of at least one user; and
 - a second area determined on the actual amount of information to be stored, the second area allocated in an unused portion of the first area, the second area utilized by the at least one user stored in the first area;
 - a block unit configured to manage the second area, the block unit having a predetermined size;
 - wherein the memory is configured to store a plurality of data for prescribing different access rights to each of the at least one user and wherein the memory includes a predetermined area in said second area that includes a plurality of blocks that include a first block number and a second block number, wherein the first and second block numbers reflect the size of the memory area associated with each of the at least one user based on the actual amount of information stored for each of the at least one user.
21. (new): The information processing apparatus of claim 20, wherein the second area is accessed by referring two or more block data of different access rights.
22. (new): The information processing apparatus of claim 21, wherein the second area includes a block unit defined to be accessed from two or more the at least one user.

23. (new): The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the second area includes a common area which is accessible by two or more of the at least one user.
24. (new): The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein data related to each access right is either read/write access data or read only access data.
25. (new): A method of information processing comprising:
 - receiving a command from a predetermined user;
 - processing said command by utilizing a memory section;
 - defining a first area in the memory section, the first area configured to store a plurality of data related to at least one user;
 - defining a second area in an unutilized portion of the first area, wherein the second area is utilized by the at least one user and the size of the second area is based on the actual amount of information stored;
 - providing a block unit to manage the second area, wherein the block unit has a predetermined size;:
 - wherein the block unit stores a plurality of data for prescribing different access rights to each of the at least one user and a predetermined area in said second area in said first area; and
 - wherein the block unit includes a plurality of blocks that include a first block number and a second block number, said first and second block numbers reflecting the size of the memory section associated with each user based on the actual amount of information stored for each user; and
 - transmitting results of said processing.
26. (new): An information processing apparatus comprising:
 - means for receiving a command from an apparatus for providing service;
 - means for processing the received command and generating a result;
 - means for transmitting the generated results; and

a memory section including:

a first area for storing block data relating to one or more service providers; and

a second area allocated in an unused portion of said first area, wherein the second area is utilized by the one or more service providers stored in the first area and the size of the second area is based on the actual amount of information stored, and

wherein the second area is managed in a block unit having a predetermined size, the block unit including a plurality of blocks that include a first block number and a second block number, wherein the first and second block numbers reflecting the size of the memory area associated with each user based on the actual amount of information stored for each user,

wherein the block data stored in the first area includes definition data which defines a predetermined area defined by the blocks in the second area and access right data which defines access rights to the second area, wherein the second area is accessible by a user based on a plurality of the block data stored in the first area, said block data used by the respective service providers including the access right data which defines different access rights to the second area.

27. (new): The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein the block unit is configured to be accessed from two or more service providers.